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Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 13221 031316Z

44
ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AID-20 CEQ-02 COA-02

COME-00 EB-12 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEAE-00

CG-00 DOTE-00 JUSE-00 SCA-01 SCS-03 DRC-01 DLOS-07

/153 W
---------- 116416
O 031330Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4274

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FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA
FROM MADRAS OCT 3, 1974, REPEATED TO YOU. QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CGEN (US VESSEL TRANS HURON), PLOS
SUBJECT: TRANS HURON TANKER

REF: NEW DELHI 13150

1. AFRAID THE OIL IS BEGINNING TO HIT THE FAN DOWN HERE. WE
HAVE JUST RECEIVED MATHRUBHUMI (INDEPENDENT MALAYALAM DAILY
WITH SECOND LARGEST (135,000) CIRCULATION IN STATE) OF OCTOBER 2,
WHICH HAS FOLLOWING PROMINENTLY PLACED ARTICLE (OUR TRANSLATION)
DATELINED COCHIN AND HEADLINED "OIL TANKER WRECK: A GREAT DANGER
TO THE COUNTRY":

BEGIN QUOTE "THE WRECK OF THE AMERICAN OIL TANKER S.S. TRANS
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HURON WILL BE A GREAT DANGEVR TO KERALA, EVEN FOR INDIA, IT IS

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POINTED OUT HERE.

"THE TRANS HURON WHICH RAN AGROUND IN THE LAKSHADWIP CORAL ISLAND OF KILTAN IS PRACTICALLY ABANDONED.;

"THE TANKER WHICH HAS BEEN DESTROYED CONTAINED ABOUT 18,000 TONNES OF CRUDE OIL. THE DIVING EXPERTS OF THE INDIAN NAVY HAVE FOUND OUT THAT OIL IS FLOWING OUT AS THE HULL OF THE SHIP IS BROKEN.

"TRANS HURON IS NOT A NEW TANKER; IT IS A REPAIRED OLD TANKER. THE INDIAN NAVY OFFICERS HAVE RETURNED TO BOMBAY AND COCHIN AS THEY FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SALVAGE IT.

"THE OIL FLOWING OUT OF THE TANKER WILL FLOOD THE SEA AROUND THE SHORES. WILL IT DESTROY THE FISHES IN THE SEA? WILL IT DO HARM TO THE FARMING COMMUNITY IN THE ISLANDS? WILL THE WATER BE POLLUTED?

"IF THE FISHES IN THE SEA ARE DESTROYED, IT WILL BE VERY HARMFUL TO THE FISHING INDUSTRY OF KERALA. AND FISHING IS AN INDUSTRY THAT EARNS A LOT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE FOR INDIA.

"NEITHER THE GOVERNMENT OF KERALA NOR THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN IT SERIOUSLY. THERE ARE ABOUT HALF-A-DOZEN FISHERY RESEARCH INSTITUTES IN COCHIN. THERE ARE SEVERAL FISHING EXPERTS WORKING IN THESE INSTITUTIONS. HAVE THEY NOTHING TO SAY OR DO ABOUT IT?" END QUOTE
EAVES UNQUOTE
SCHNEIDER

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Draft Date: 03 OCT 1974
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TAGS: OGEN, PLOS, SENV, IN
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